

RATH et al
Serial No. 10/508,397
July 26, 2006

REMARKS

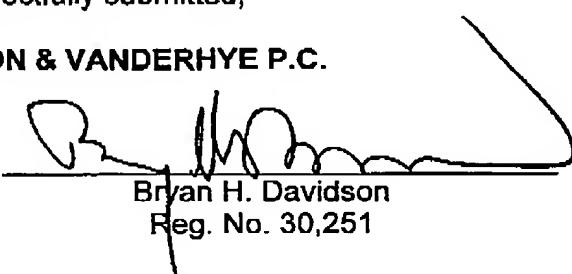
By way of the amendment instructions above, independent claim 1 has been corrected so as to delete therefrom subject matter which was inadvertently retained in the claim when submitting the prior amendment of July 14, 2006, which subject matter was superfluous in view of such prior amendment. The amended claims as presented above therefore include such prior amendments of July 14, 2006, as further amended above.

The pending claims herein are submitted to be patentable in view of the reasons advanced in the amendment of July 14, 2006, which reasons are expressly incorporated hereinto by reference.

An early and favorable reply on the merits is awaited.

Respectfully submitted,

NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

By: 

Bryan H. Davidson
Reg. No. 30,251

BHD:bcf
901 North Glebe Road, 11th Floor
Arlington, VA 22203-1808
Telephone: (703) 816-4000
Facsimile: (703) 816-4100